



**PERMANENT MISSION OF CUBA TO THE
UNITED NATIONS**

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**STATEMENT BY THE CUBAN DELEGATION AT THE SPECIAL
COMMITTEE ON THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND
ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE OF THE
ORGANIZATION**

New York, 16 February 2021

Mr. Chairman,

The delegation of Cuba congratulates the members of the Bureau and extends its support for the successful conduct of this session of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization.

We appreciate the Secretariat's work in preparing the documentation and supporting the delegations, as well as the publication of Report A/75/33 of the Committee.

The delegation of Cuba associates itself with the statement delivered by the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of NAM.

We are pleased to have worked together with the Chair and the Member States in support of the mandate of UNGA Resolution 3349 (XXIX), from which this Committee emerged.

Mr. Chairman,

The Special Committee is the enabling environment to interpret or negotiate any amendments to the Charter of the United Nations, including those arising from the ongoing reform process of the Organization, and to exchange on the best practices in its proper application. Likewise, the Committee is the appropriate framework for proposing recommendations to implement all the provisions

contained in the Charter and ensure that all Member States and UN organs act in accordance with its principles and purposes.

Accordingly, the Committee must be open to inclusive and transparent debate on any proposed resolution, decision or action by United Nations organs when having implications for compliance with and implementation of the Charter.

Cuba endorses the strengthening of the leading role of the General Assembly as the chief regulatory, deliberative, policy-making and representative organ of the United Nations.

Mr. Chairman,

The relevance of the annual sessions of this Committee and items under its agenda are confirmed in an international context in which, on a recurrent basis, some countries attempt to impose reinterpretations of the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, in order to promote interventionist political agendas, to the detriment of the integrity and sovereignty of developing countries, as a flagrant violation of the principles of international law.

Despite the manifest will of many Member States to advance the work of the Committee and its valuable contributions and proposals, which deserve to be discussed and approved for their contributions to the strengthening of the work of the Organization; continuous attempts by others to hinder its work have prevented the approval of important documents that would have a positive impact on the strengthening of the work of the United Nations. Such is the case of the proposals of Belarus, Ghana, Libya and Russia, which are still on the table, pending concrete action on them.

In this context, Cuba expresses its support for the three new proposals made by the delegations of Iran, Syria and Mexico. The Cuban delegation believes that that these proposals deserve to be included in the formal agenda of the Committee, since they address issues that are crucial for the functioning of the Organization and for the Rule of Law at the international level. In this regard, it would be very useful for the Committee to discuss their legal basis and propose viable recommendations on them.

Cuba is willing to work with all delegations for such purposes.

At previous sessions of this body, my delegation submitted a proposal on the topic "Maintenance of International Peace and Security". In this regard, we updated this working paper, which we submitted for the consideration of Member States, and on which we have continued to work bilaterally to improve its formulation.

We look forward to having a frank and transparent discussion on this matter at this session. We invite delegations to submit their considerations or suggestions. Cuba is open to incorporating the necessary adjustments to facilitate consensus.

Mr. Chairman,

Almost forty years after its adoption, we reiterate the validity and high legal value of the Manila Declaration as one of the main outcomes achieved by this Committee.

In this regard, my delegation appreciates the draft resolution submitted by the Philippines and extends its most sincere support and commitment to carry out transparent negotiations leading to the required consensus, in order to commemorate the 40th anniversary of such important document.

The Cuban delegation is also pleased to note the holding of thematic debates on practices in the use of Peaceful Means of Dispute Settlement as a means of peaceful settlement of conflicts, in accordance with Chapter VI of the United Nations Charter, including, in particular, the elements contained in Article 33, a NAM proposal made in previous sessions. This action is unquestionably valuable in the current international situation, characterized by serious threats to international peace and security.

In this sense, we encourage delegations to continue to contribute their experiences to the development of a substantive debate on arbitration, which is another important means of peaceful settlement of international disputes and conflicts.

Contributions and materials collected during this process provide a valuable documentary base, whose publication on the Committee's website is very useful and contributes to a more efficient and effective use of these peaceful means by Member States.

On the other hand, we are also grateful for the briefings that have taken place in the Committee relating to the Secretary-General's

reports on the implementation of the Charter provisions related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII. These exchanges are very useful and contribute to improving the transparency and credibility of the Organization's work.

Mr. Chairman,

Finally, we emphasize that all the actions carried out by the Committee are evidence of its remarkable role in the Organization, despite the continuous attempts by some Member States to hamper its work. Therefore, the Cuban delegation opposes any attempt to biennialize its work or reduce its agenda.

We invite everyone to engage in a constructive and genuine dialogue and to show true political will that will allow us to move forward on the long-standing issues on the agenda.

Thank you.